

VIA FACSIMILE: 703-872-9327  
Attorney Docket No. 5603.02

said at least one bell-formed end of said at least first section of corrugated pipe defined by a sloped transition from said first inner diameter of said length to a second inner diameter, and wherein said second inner diameter being greater than said first inner diameter and less than said outer diameter;

at least a second section of corrugated pipe having a length and at least one bell-formed end, said length having an inner wall and an outer wall, said inner wall defining a first inner diameter and said outer wall defining an outer diameter;

said at least one bell-formed end of said at least second section of corrugated pipe defined by a sloped transition from said first inner diameter of said length to a second inner diameter, and wherein said second inner diameter being greater than said first inner diameter and less than said outer diameter;

*B,*  
*(cont'd)*  
a connector insert defining opposing ends and a push-ring;

at least one gasket positioned on at least one of said opposing ends of said connector insert; and

wherein said bell-formed ends of said at least first and at least second sections are positioned adjacent to one another and said connector insert is positioned in said bell-formed ends.

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#### REMARKS

Claims 1-19 were pending in the application, with claims 1, 10, and 17 being independent claims. In brief review, claims 17-19 are allowed, and claims 1-16 are rejected as obvious under 35 U.S.C. § 103. Claims 10-16 are cancelled herein without prejudice. Claim 1 is amended herein.

By Amendment and Response to all rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103, it is respectfully submitted that the rejected claims are not anticipated by prior art and are not obvious in light of prior art.